

JC17 Rec'd PCT/PTO 18 JUL 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-13. (Cancelled).

14. (New) An implant for subcutaneous or intradermal injection into fibrous tissue, comprising at least one biodegradable thixotropic compound with pseudoplastic properties, preferably at least one bioresorbable thixotropic compound with pseudoplastic properties, and even more preferably at least one thixotropic compound with pseudoplastic properties based on xanthan gum.

15. (New) The implant according to claim 14, comprising at least one bioresorbable thixotropic compound with pseudoplastic properties.

16. (New) The implant according to claim 14, comprising at least one thixotropic compound with pseudoplastic properties based on xanthan gum.

17. (New) An implant for subcutaneous or intradermal injection into fibrous tissue, comprising microparticles of at least one biocompatible ceramic compound in suspension in at least one vector fluid, said implant being such that said microparticles are biodegradable and have a size of from 10 to 80  $\mu\text{m}$ , said ceramic compound comprising at least one component chosen from the group formed by tricalcium phosphate ( $\beta\text{TCP}$ ) and biphasic products (BPC) which comprise HAP and  $\beta\text{TCP}$  in variable proportion, and in that said vector fluid comprises at least one compound based on hyaluronic acid and at least one biodegradable thixotropic compound with pseudoplastic properties.

18. (New) The implant according to claim 17 wherein the ceramic component is tricalcium phosphate ( $\beta\text{TCP}$ ).

19. (New) The implant according to claim 17 wherein said microparticles have a size of from 15 to 50  $\mu\text{m}$

20. (New) The implant according to claim 17 wherein said vector fluid comprises at least one bioresorbable thixotropic compound with pseudoplastic properties.

21. (New) The implant according to claim 17 wherein said vector fluid comprises at least one thixotropic compound with pseudoplastic properties based on xanthan gum.

22. (New) The implant according to claim 17 wherein said ceramic compound has a specific surface area of from 0.5  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$  to 100  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ .

23. (New) The implant according to claim 17 wherein said ceramic compound has a specific surface area of from 2  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$  to 27  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ .

24. (New) The implant according to claim 17 wherein the microparticles are bioresorbable, once the implantation has been made into a fibrous tissue, within a period of from 2 to 36 months.

25. (New) The implant according to claim 17 wherein the microparticles are bioresorbable, once the implantation has been made into a fibrous tissue, within a period of from 3 to 24 months.

26. (New) The implant according to claim 17 wherein the microparticles are bioresorbable, once the implantation has been made into a fibrous tissue, within a period of from 4 to 18 months.

27. (New) The implant according to claim 17 wherein the microparticles are present in the vector fluid in a weight/volume proportion strictly greater than 0% and less than 15%.

28. (New) The implant according to claim 17 wherein the microparticles are present in the vector fluid in a weight/volume proportion from 2% to 12%.

29. (New) The implant according to claim 17 wherein the vector fluid for the implant is a biocompatible gel.

30. (New) The implant according to claim 17 wherein the vector fluid for the implant is a bioresorbable gel.

31. (New) The implant according to claim 17 wherein the hyaluronic acid-based compound predominantly comprises hyaluronic acid.

32. (New) The implant according to claim 31 wherein said hyaluronic acid-based compound comprises hyaluronic acid with a molecular weight of greater than one million daltons and preferably from one million to five million daltons.

33. (New) The implant according to claim 31 wherein said hyaluronic acid-based compound comprises hyaluronic acid with a molecular weight of from one million to five million daltons.

34. (New) A process for preparing an injectable implant for subcutaneous or intradermal injection into fibrous tissue, said implant comprising microparticles of at least one biocompatible ceramic compound in suspension in at least one vector fluid, said implant being such that said microparticles are biodegradable and have a size of from 10 to 80  $\mu\text{m}$ ,

said ceramic compound comprising at least one component chosen from the group formed by tricalcium phosphate ( $\beta$ TCP) and biphasic products (BPC) which comprise HAP and  $\beta$ TCP in variable proportion, and in that said vector fluid comprises at least one compound based on hyaluronic acid and at least one biodegradable thixotropic compound with pseudoplastic properties, wherein said process comprises the following steps:

- a biocompatible ceramic compound in the form of microparticles is prepared in a first step,
- in an other step, independently or not of the above preliminary step, a solution of a vector fluid comprising at least one hyaluronic acid-based compound and at least one biodegradable thixotropic compound with pseudoplastic properties is prepared,
- the ceramic compound from the first step is then introduced into the vector fluid from the other step, in a final step, so as to obtain an essentially homogeneous suspension.

35. (New) The implant as claimed in claim 14 or as claimed claim 17, wherein said implant is in the form of a ready-to-use prefilled syringe, a ready-to-use prefilled bottle or a lyophilizate to be reconstituted.

36. (New) A kit for the extemporaneous use of an implant as claimed in claim 14 or as claimed claim 17, wherein the kit comprises a ceramic compound in a first part and a vector fluid in a second part.

37. (New) A process for filling wrinkles and/or fine lines and/or skin depressions and/or scars, comprising the subcutaneous injection of an implant as claimed in claim 14 or as claimed claim 17.---